

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**[OMB Control No. 2900-0222]****Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

AGENCY: National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Cemetery Administration (NCA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection for which approval has expired, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information to obtain a government provided headstone or grave marker for eligible veterans.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 23, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Jocelyn Hearn, National Cemetery Administration (402B1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0222" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mechelle Powell at (202) 501-1960 or Fax (202) 273-9381.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-21), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, NCA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of NCA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of NCA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use

of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker for Installation in a Private or State Veterans' Cemetery, VA Form 40-1330.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0222.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The form is used by the next of kin or other responsible parties to apply for Government-provided headstones or markers for unmarked graves of eligible veterans. The information is used by VA to determine the veteran's eligibility for, and entitlement to this benefit.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 83,500 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 334,000.

Dated: January 13, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

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